From: Wes Peterson

To: Microsoft ATR

Date: 12/17/01 12:56am

Subject: Microsoft's Monopoly

I have been using both Microsoft operating systems and the Macintosh for as long as they have existed. I could write a long letter, but I won't. It is very clear to me that on many occasions Microsoft has used their dominance of the operating system marked to further their monopoly. You might not realize that they have done it in the word processing market in Japan.

Today let me just say that I am seriously concerned about two things. First, by putting their media player into Windows and making it the first choice media player, they have taken a big step towards squeezing out Apple Quicktime and RealNetworks RealPlayer.

Secondly, there is Microsoft Passport, which is collecting a lot of data about subscribers and forcing all who are using Microsoft Hotmail, Microsoft Network, and Microsoft Developers' Network to subscribe if they want to continue to receive those services. I think it is a very unhealthy thing for this service to be under Microsoft's control at all, and it will be very unfortunate if they dominate this field as well as the operating system market.

Very Sincerely Yours, W. Wesley Peterson Professor of Information and Computer Sciences University of Hawaii wes@hawaii.edu